PRESS RELEASE

Vicky Lentz elected President of the New Brunswick Arts Board

(Fredericton - October 22, 2003)

At its annual general meeting in St. Andrews on October 5, the New Brunswick Arts Board elected Vicky Lentz as the President of the Board. Vicky Lentz, a professional artist from Saint Jacques, New Brunswick, succeeds Pauline Bourque, the outgoing President of the Board and Director of Film Zone Inc. who served as President during 2002-2003.

Also elected to the Executive were Ludmila Knezkova-Hussey of Bathurst who will serve as Vice-President and Christian Whalen of Fredericton elected 2nd Vice-President. Michel LeBlanc of Caraquet was re-elected for another term as Secretary Treasurer for the Board.

The Board would like to welcome a new member, Shane Perley-Dutcher who will serve as the Aboriginal representative. The members would also like to thank Mr. Jean-Marc Lafontaine of Edmunston who is leaving the Board at the end of a three-year term. Other members serving on the Board for the coming year are Dr. Anne Compton from Rothesay, Paul Daigle from Fredericton, Jeanne Farrah from Dieppe and Dr. Claude LeBouthillier from Caraquet. The New Brunswick Arts Board extends their warmest thanks and best wishes to Dr. Mark Kristmanson who served the Board as Director from 2000-2003. Mr. Kristmanson left the Board in August 2003 to pursue personal endeavors.

The Arts Board is in its fourth year of operations as an independent arts funding organization for the province of New Brunswick. The Board administers ten separate grant programs for professional artists in the province. As noted in the Annual Report 2002-2003, the Board administered a total of $1,007,664 in grants to artists, $94,907 more than the previous year.

Vicky Lentz explains that it is an exciting time for the organization. *"We will be building on the past successes of the Board and looking to further strengthen communications with artists from all regions of the province. We are looking forward to an increase in the number of artists actively applying to our grant programs and to increased visibility of the activities of the New Brunswick Arts Board within the general population."*

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